



Activities You and Your Child Can Do Together After Reading a Story



After the story is over, have your child draw a picture of his/her favorite scene. Discuss why he/she chose this picture. You may also want to reread that portion of the story and choose a sentence or two to write at the bottom of the illustration.

- Have your child try to determine what a character is thinking at major points in the story. Ask him/her to write these thoughts down in thought balloons you've drawn out, or have your child dictate to you as you write.
- Stop in the middle of a new story and ask your child to predict what will happen next. Do this as often as you wish, especially if it interests your child. Discuss the prediction(s) at the end of the story.
- Read a story through once. Then, reread the story and make a list of each problem the main character encountered. Discuss (and, if you wish, record) how each problem was resolved.
- Have your student keep a journal where he/she writes opinions, questions, feelings, thoughts, ideas, etc., about each story that you read. Consider keeping a journal yourself as a way of supporting this activity. (Remember, the journal should not be a summary of the main events of the book). Every once in a while, read through your journals together and discuss some of the best books (or reread them!).
- Keep track of words that your child has trouble with as he/she reads. After you have a list of ten or so, have your child write out the dictionary definition, write out family member's definitions, draw illustrations of the meaning of the word, cut out pictures from magazines which somehow describe the word, record each time he/she hears the word in daily conversation, and anything else that you think of as you work on the dictionary.

